

Champaign County Mental Health Board

THREE YEAR PLAN

For Fiscal Years 2026 through 2028

(1/1/26 – 12/31/28)

With One Year Objectives and Tactics

for Fiscal Year 2026

(1/1/26-12/31/26)

Champaign County Mental Health Board

WHEREAS, the Champaign County Mental Health Board (CCMHB), was established under Illinois Revised Statutes (405 ILCS - 20/Section 0.1 et. Seq.) in order to "construct, repair, operate, maintain and regulate community mental health facilities to provide mental health services as defined by the local community mental health board, including services for, persons with a developmental disability or substance use disorder, for residents thereof and/or to contract therefor..."

WHEREAS, the Champaign County Mental Health Board is required by the Community Mental Health Act to prepare a one- and three-year plan for a program of community mental health services and facilities,

THEREFORE, the Champaign County Mental Health Board does hereby adopt the following Mission Statement and Statement of Purposes to guide the development of the mental health plan for Champaign County:

Mission Statement

The mission of the CCMHB is the promotion of a local system of services for the prevention and treatment of mental or emotional, intellectual or developmental, and substance use disorders, in accordance with the assessed priorities of Champaign County residents.

Statement of Purposes

1. Planning a comprehensive system of mental health, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and substance use disorder services for Champaign County.
2. Allocation of funds to assure the provision of a comprehensive system of community-based supports and services which is responsive to all community members.
3. Improving access to all relevant resources for an interrelated and robust system of care.
4. Advocating for improvements to local, state, and national systems.
5. Evaluation of the system of care to assure that supports and services are provided as planned and that services are aligned with the needs and values of the community.

To accomplish these purposes, the CCMHB collaborates on the resources necessary for effective community behavioral health and developmental disabilities systems. The CCMHB shall fulfill responsibilities specified in the Illinois Community Mental Health Act.

This Three-Year Plan is organized according to the five purposes identified above. Each purpose is followed by at least one strategy and goal. Each goal has measurable objectives, which are likely to continue from one year to the next, and tactics which may be completed or substantially revised in subsequent years.

Purpose #1: Planning

STRATEGY: The people most directly affected by our work should influence it.

Goal 1.1: Gather information about the behavioral health and developmental disability support and service needs and preferences of adults who reside in Champaign County.

- At each regular Board meeting in 2026, invite input from people who access or seek supports and services related to mental illness (MI), substance use disorder (SUD), and/or intellectual/developmental disability (I/DD).
- Prior to each regular Board meeting during 2026, reach out to individuals, advocacy groups, family members, and other supporters, for any input they would offer.

At least once during 2026, and prior to the final draft of PY2028 funding priorities:

- Host a presentation in which people who access or seek to access supports and services may address the Board directly.
- Summarize available preference and need data collected by Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) or other entities, including seniors.

Goal 1.2: Gather information about the behavioral health and developmental disability support and service needs and preferences of youth who reside in Champaign County.

At least once during 2026, and prior to final draft of PY2028 funding priorities:

- Participate in the Transition Planning Committee.
- Use data reported by funded programs serving youth and young adults.
- Request information from students, families, school districts, and service providers regarding supports which would be helpful.
- Use data reported through the [*Illinois Youth Survey*](#) and, as possible, encourage increased local school participation in the survey.
- Use data provided through collaborations such as Champaign County Community Coalition, Continuum of Service Providers to the Homeless, Youth Assessment Center Advisory Committee, and Champaign County Redeploy Initiative to understand which supports and services might benefit youth who have multi-system involvement.

Goal 1.3: Gather information about the behavioral health and developmental disability support and service needs and preferences of young children who reside in Champaign County.

At least once during 2026, and prior to final draft of PY2028 funding priorities:

- Seek input from Early Childhood Home Visiting Consortium partners funded by CCMHB.
- Seek input from the Region 9 Birth to Five Council or similar collaboration.
- Exchange updates with United Way of Champaign County and other local funders currently prioritizing the needs of very young children and their families.
- Review local Child Find Data with the Local Interagency Council Coordinator.

Goal 1.4: Increase engagement with family support and advocacy organizations.

At least once during 2026, and prior to final draft of PY2028 funding priorities:

- Seek input from local family support organizations and networks.
- Seek feedback about family support organization activities and events to understand who is reached and whether desired services or activities are available.
- Participate in statewide networks which include family members and other supporters of people who access or seek services.

STRATEGY: Clarify current challenges and opportunities.

Goal 1.5: Identify service gaps and other challenges related to the operating environment, including desired services not covered by state/federal funding.

- At least once during 2026, and prior to final draft of PY2028 funding priorities, use County Health Rankings data to compare Champaign County with Illinois and the US.

At least twice during 2026, and prior to final draft of PY2028 funding priorities:

- Through local collaborations such as the Transition Planning Committee and Health Plan Priority workgroups, identify community-wide barriers and possible solutions.
- Through state and national trade association activities, track changes in and implementation of state and/or federally funded programs as well as legislative activity likely to impact people served or waiting for services.

- Seek input on the larger service systems from funders, state officials, and other experts.
- Track relevant class action cases, such as the Ligas Consent Decree.
- Monitor changes in Medicaid waivers and Managed Care, especially whether service capacity and options are sufficient to meet demand in Champaign County.

Goal 1.6: Stay informed of current best practices and promising practices.

At least twice during 2026:

- Attend state and national association (and similar) meetings, webinars, and communities of practice to learn about evidence-based, evidence-informed, recommended, innovative, and promising practice models which may benefit people who have MI, SUD, or I/DD.
- Through relationships with other funders, state officials, and other experts, gather and share such information, including whether other pay sources are available.

At least once during 2026 and prior to final draft of PY2028 funding priorities:

- For the best outcomes for people with MI, SUD, or I/DD, and based on their input, identify any appropriate practice models for implementation.

STRATEGY: Learn from the most recently completed allocation cycle.

Goal 1.7: Compare funded program reports to determine whether service capacity and delivery are likely to meet the needs and preferences as understood through the above objectives and tactics. (See below for Purpose #5: Evaluation.)

At least 80% completion by November 1, 2026:

- Summarize funded program utilization and related results for publication and for feedback from Board members and interested parties.
- Invite public input at each regular meeting and in response to published reports.

Purpose #2: Allocation

STRATEGY: Fund a range of community-based supports and services to meet the needs and preferences of people with MI, SUD, other behavioral health issues, and/or I/DD.

Goal 2.1: Allocate funds for community-based supports and services, for people who are eligible but do not have state funding or for services not covered by other funding sources, and according to peoples' identified needs and preferences.

- With at least 80% completion by May 1, 2026, solicit and review proposals for PY2027 funding (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027) from community-based providers in response to approved priorities using a competitive application process.
- During this review process, and with at least 80% completion, examine proposed budgets for allocation of sufficient amounts to indirect but critically important items such as bookkeeping, annual independent CPA audit/review, training, technical assistance, language/communication assistance, professional development for staff and governing/advisory boards, e.g., to advance CLC and diversity the workforce.
- During this review process, and with at least 80% completion, note whether proposed plans align with at least one PY2027 priority category, whether all minimum expectations are met, and how they compare with 'best value' criteria.
- With at least 80% completion by June 1, 2026, from among PY2027 funding requests made by eligible providers, select those which represent best value for residents, align most closely with defined priorities, and are affordable within projected budgets.
- With at least 80% completion by July 1, 2026, execute contracts with agencies whose funding requests are approved, to ensure timely payment and service delivery.

Goal 2.2: Develop funding priorities and decision support criteria for PY2028, using a published timeline and information from the public, funded program reports, state and federal authorities, and other interested parties.

- By December 9, 2026, a draft of PY2028 allocation priorities will incorporate at least 80% of findings of Planning objectives and tactics above and Evaluation objectives and tactics below.
- A final draft, revised using public, Board, and staff input, will be presented for Board approval at least 7 days prior to publication of a Notification of Funding Availability.
- A Notification of Funding Availability will be published at least 21 days prior to the start date of the period during which agencies may respond to these priorities.
- With 100% completion prior to the application period opening, update online application and registration forms.

STRATEGY: Through existing collaborations, increase the impact of funding.

Goal 2.3: Encourage high-quality person-centered and culturally responsive service planning and delivery for people participating in programs funded by the CCMHB and, through the Intergovernmental Agreement, from the CCDDB.

At least once prior to May 1, 2026:

- Emphasize personal agency in service planning and implementation for all served.
- Encourage and support conflict free case management for all people served.
- Through cultural and linguistic competence planning, improve outreach and engagement of members of racial, ethnic, or gender minority groups and rural residents. For very young children, reduce disparities in the age of identification of disability/delay so that all children who will benefit from early support have access.

At least once prior to November 1, 2026:

- Connect program performance measures and outcomes with those personal outcomes people with, MI, SUD, and/or I/DD identify in their individual service plans.

- Connect program performance measures and consumer outcomes with preferences as identified by people with MI, SUD, and/or I/DD and shared with the Board.

Goal 2.4: Coordinate with the CCDDB on alignment of resources for people with I/DD.

At least once prior to May 1, 2026:

- Through approved annual PY2027 funding priorities, allocate funding for a range of programs that empower people who have I/DD, at all ages and stages of life, and improve their access to integrated settings.
- Use the I/DD Special Initiatives Fund to assist Champaign County residents who have I/DD and significant support needs.

Goal 2.5: Continue collaborations with other governmental entities and funders, to maximize the impact and efficiency of allocations.

By the end of 2026, participate in at least 80% of meetings and activities of:

- Problem Solving Courts Steering Committee, Crisis Intervention Team Steering Committee, and similar collaborations, to support programs which allow people to deflect from justice system involvement.
- Collaborations of justice system, service providers, peer mentors, and community members, to support people after incarceration.
- Champaign County Community Coalition and similar, to advance the System of Care principles of youth-guided, family-driven, culturally and linguistically competent, trauma-informed supports, to improve engagement and outcomes for young residents.
- The Local Funders Group, to compare priority categories and allocations and identify strengths, gaps, efficiencies, and overlap.

Purpose #3: Access to Resources

STRATEGY: Increase community awareness of available local resources.

Goal 3.1: Improve resource visibility through accessible, user-friendly information about community supports and services and related resources.

At least once during 2026:

- Explore ‘plain language’ documents, possibly in partnership with agency providers, and aligned with [plainlanguage.gov](https://www.plainlanguage.gov) guidance on best practice.
- Partner with Champaign County and other governmental entities on improving web-based information and accessibility of websites.
- Encourage organizations to share current information with 211 information services, at <https://www.unitedwaychampaign.org/211> (community resources), Illinois’ BEACON portal, at <https://beacon.illinois.gov/> (children’s behavioral health), the disability Resource Expo, at <https://www.disabilityresourceexpo.org/resource-guide/>, and other resource guides relevant to their work.

Goal 3.2: Increase the community’s support and advocacy for people with lived experience, for their families and supporters, and for provider agencies.

- With 80% completion during 2026, use traditional and social media to promote the disAbility Resource Expo, Alliance for Inclusion and Respect, individuals and organizations involved with them, and their “awareness” events and messaging.
- As possible and at least twice during 2026, elevate ‘storytelling’ efforts of funded programs and testimonials shared by individuals, through public Board meetings.
- By August 1, 2026, develop and post, online and in board packets, brief information about PY2027 funded programs.
- By October 1 and by December 1, develop and post reports on PY2026 funded programs online and in board packets.

STRATEGY: Ensure that community-based supports/services are coordinated and accessible.

Goal 3.3: Identify opportunities for providers of similar services to coordinate their efforts and partner for best value to Champaign County residents. Require funded agencies to participate in certain collaborations.

- With 80% completion, attend monthly Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Agency Council (MHDDAC) meetings and contribute to details on gaps and resources.
- At least once during 2026, encourage service providers to participate in existing collaborations with providers of similar or related services, such as the Transition Planning Committee, SOFFT/LAN, Rantoul Service Providers,

- Continuum of Providers of Services to the Homeless, Champaign County Community Coalition Goal meetings, YAC Steering Committee, CIT Steering Committee, etc.
- At least once during 2026, and as gaps are clarified, encourage service providers to develop new collaborations with providers of similar or related services.
 - At least once during 2026, encourage service providers to participate in community wide resource/awareness events.

Goal 3.4: Develop and encourage cross-system and other partnerships which will reduce barriers experienced by people who have behavioral health conditions and/or I/DD.

By the end of 2026, contribute to at least 80% of meetings or activities of:

- Metropolitan Intergovernmental Council and Champaign County Community Coalition Executive Committee for updates and shared responses to emerging issues.
- Crisis Intervention Team Steering Committee and Problem Solving Courts Steering Committee for updates and coordinated planning.
- Consistent with the Champaign County Community Health Plan assessed priority for Access to Healthcare, identify barriers experienced by people with behavioral health conditions and/or I/DD and promote access and wellness.
- Consistent with the Health Plan assessed priority for Behavioral Health, support reduced reliance on emergency department care and increased access to behavioral health care for all residents, regardless of ability/disability, and with special attention to youth and their families.
- Consistent with the Health Plan assessed priority for Preventing Violence and the anti-violence goals of other units of local government, support increased conflict resolution skills and other efforts to mitigate the impacts of many types of violence.
- Consistent with the Health Plan assessed priority for Healthy Behaviors, support mentoring relationships through existing or new organizations and across all populations and ages.
- Advocate for the above committees and councils to include full participation by people with relevant lived experience.

Purpose #4: System Advocacy

STRATEGY: Promote improved quality of life for people with MI, SUD, and/or I/DD.

Goal 4.1: Advocate for flexible, person-centered, healing-focused, high-quality support/service options for people who have behavioral health and/or developmental disability support needs.

At least twice during 2026, through state and national association committees and similar:

- On behalf of people eligible for but not receiving care through Medicaid or other state programs, as well as those who are eligible and covered but receiving care that does not meet their needs, advocate for the state to offer flexible options.
- In coordination with people who have behavioral health conditions or I/DD, along with their families and supporters, advocate for workforce development and stabilization.
- Participate in statewide system redesign efforts, including Engage Illinois (I/DD), CESSA Regional Advisory Council (crisis response), and support the Illinois Children's Behavioral Health Transformation Initiative (children).
- Elevate suggestions which further include people with MI, SUD, or I/DD in all systems.

Goal 4.2: Improve understanding of MI, SUD, and/or I/DD through family or peer support organizations, especially those led by people with lived experience.

At least once during 2026:

- Promote groups' efforts to reduce stigma/promote inclusion.
- Co-sponsor events when appropriate.
- Offer support for Cultural and Linguistic Competence and other trainings, to increase outreach and engagement.

Goal 4.3: Maintain involvement with state agencies and other organizations with an interest in behavioral health or developmental disabilities.

Participate in at least 80% of available meetings during 2026 which involve:

- Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Developmental Disabilities.
- Illinois Department of Human Services Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery.
- Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority.
- Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services.

STRATEGY: Promote inclusion and respect of people with MI, SUD, or I/DD.

Goal 4.4: Through broad community education efforts, promote inclusion and challenge stigma.

At least once during 2026:

- Host an annual disAbility Resource Expo or similar community event.
- Host or promote an event through the Alliance for Inclusion and Respect, sharing partners' anti-stigma messages and supporting entrepreneurs who have disabilities.
- If an appropriate match is identified, partner with student groups or interns on a project with inclusion focus.

Goal 4.5: Support other organizations' community education initiatives.

- At least twice during 2026, participate in other local resource fairs and similar community events. Share the disAbility Resource Expo comprehensive resource directory.
- At least four times during 2026, offer educational opportunities for service providers and interested parties, to enhance their work and meet continuing education requirements.
- At least twice during 2026, promote/advertise other organizations' similar efforts.

Goal 4.6: Amplify the efforts of people with lived experience to participate fully in and improve the community and its resources.

At least once during 2026:

- In public documents and meetings of the Board or with collaborators, emphasize inclusion as a benefit to all members of the community, regardless of ability.
- In allocation priorities and through resulting agency services, encourage efforts to support people with behavioral health conditions and/or I/DD in

meaningful work and non-work experiences in their community, driven by their own interests.

Purpose #5: Evaluation

STRATEGY: Learn from utilization and outcome reports from funded programs.

Goal 5.1: Review submitted agency reports for current and prior periods to understand utilization, impacts, and areas for improvement.

At least 80% completion by November 1, 2026:

- Using agency progress and outcome reports from PY2026, identify strengths which may be built on, vulnerabilities which should be addressed. As appropriate, respond to the challenges funded agencies have reported.
- Using individual client demographic and residency as reported by programs funded during PY2025 and PY2026 to determine where outreach and engagement has improved to reach all members of the community who seek services.
- Review CLC progress reports for actions which have improved the engagement of members of racial and ethnic minority groups.

Goal 5.2: To demonstrate transparency in process and accountability for results, and to encourage public input regarding those results, make information accessible to the public.

At least 80% completion by November 1, 2026:

- Prepare and post publicly an aggregate funded program performance outcome report.
- Summarize funded program utilization and related results for publication and feedback from Board members and other interested parties (as in Goal 1.7).

Goal 5.3: Incorporate prior year results into next year plan objectives and funding priorities. (*See above for Purpose #1: Planning.*)

At least 80% completion by November 1, 2026:

- Use Board and public input regarding program results to update allocation priorities and Three-Year Plan one-year objectives/tactics to fill gaps and increase successes.

- Compare PY2026 funded program results with results of planning activities described above and propose changes which will strengthen results of PY2028 allocations.
- Where advocacy, community awareness, or collaborations outside of the scope of agency allocations will strengthen results, propose relevant Three-Year Plan one-year objectives and tactics for 2027.

STRATEGY: Contribute to the community's evaluation capacity.

Goal 5.4: Maximize service provider and Board capacity to evaluate programs and share their results with the public, through a contract between the CCDDB, CCMHB, and UIUC Family Resiliency Center, which continues to April 30, 2027.

- At least nine times during 2026, consult with Evaluation Capacity Building (ECB) researchers on progress toward increasing agencies' capacity to evaluate and report on program performance and consumer outcomes.
- Prior to 80% of Board meetings during 2026, invite ECB team to provide updates.
- At least three times during 2026, encourage funded and non-funded organizations to use the tools developed by the ECB research team (e.g., through Local Funders Group, MHDDAC, or Champaign County Government.)
- Before July 1, 2026, identify funded programs to receive intensive support from the ECB.

STRATEGY: Assessment of the Organization

Goal 5.5: Ensure that internal operations support fulfillment of the Board's mission and vision.

- Prior to November 1, 2026, complete an organizational assessment focused on operations, which may redesign the work to prepare for succession, modernization, etc.
- At least once during 2026, and as Board members identify topics for exploration, staff will maintain a list of 'strategic questions' to prioritize and respond to one topic at a time, as Board meeting time permits.
- At least twice during 2026, communicate with representatives of other Boards established under the Illinois Community Mental Health Act about their responses to revised or longstanding provisions in the statute.

Approved by the CCMHB on November 19, 2025.